

# King's Oak Primary School - Year 4 - Spring Term 2025-2026

The Year 4 Team:

Teachers: Mrs Cole, Mr Humphreys

Teaching Assistants: Miss Plumb, Ms Ashraf, Ms Sinha, Ms Habibi



Theme: What was life like for a Victorian Child?

**As readers and writers** we will be learning about the Victorians and what it was like to be a child during that time. We will be reading the book *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty and learning how this fact based story helped to change the way Victorian children were treated and how its main character - Jim Jarvis, inspired Dr Bernardo to start his charity.

We will also be learning about what it must have felt like to be a young Princess Victoria, then to be told one morning that you are now Queen of Britain.

This course of study will include, drama, retelling events in our words, writing from a character's point of view, writing descriptive pieces and reports. Grammar will be taught alongside this.

**As geographers** we will learning about the different biomes and vegetation belts across the world. We will investigate the various climates of the world that supports where different plants grow and animal live.

Alongside this, we will also explore how our changing global climate will affect the various ecosystems of the different biomes of the world.

**As historians** we will be making links with our reading and writing in English, by delving into the life of Victorian society and contrasting that of the Victorian poor with the Victorian rich. We will be investigating why people moved from the countryside to the cities and how this affected the quality of housing, health and life expectancy. We will be visiting The London Docklands Museum to learn more about what Victorian working conditions were like and see a historical Victorian building.

**As scientists** we will be studying animals and their habitats. We will be learning how to identify things that are living and nonliving within an ecosystem, as well as learning how to classify and group different species of animals.

We will also be studying the digestive system of animals and their teeth. We will be carrying out investigations on how the human digestive system works and looking at liquids that cause the most decay.

## Every week:

Reading Record: Children to read daily, to be signed by an adult 3 times per week.

Homework: Set on Friday, due Wednesday

Library: Friday

PE: Tuesday and Thursday

## Whole School Dates

World Book Day- 5th March

Parents Evening: 3rd and 5th March

Half-term: WB 16th February

Polka Theatre - 13th February

Local trip to Kingsmeadow - 29th January

London Docklands Museum- 12th March

**The Big Question: What was life like for a Victorian child?** Over the spring term, we will be exploring the impact of the industrial revolution on the way ordinary people lived during the 1800s, especially the lives of children. We will discover that the life of an ordinary Victorian child was very different and extremely difficult and that many did not live to see their teenage years. In addition to this, we will be investigating the legacy of the Victorian era on Britain today. Through guided reading, writing, art, our history topic and DT, we will immerse ourselves to better understand this topic by making cross curricular links.

**As mathematicians** we will be learning our times tables and using those skills to multiply and divide larger numbers and in a more formal way. Following on from this, we will also be learning how to find the perimeter and area of shapes and spaces. This will entail us knowing how to measure length accurately and knowing the difference units of measurement. Being able to reason and explain our answers as well as problem solve will be a theme throughout each lesson

## Across the curriculum

**As musicians** - We will be continuing learning how to sing songs from popular culture. We will also learn about pitch, pace and rhythm in song practise.

**As artists** - Looking at the work of William Morris, how he used nature inspire the way people decorated their homes.

**As computing specialists** - We will be looking at computational thinking as well as using spreadsheets to show data.

**As design technologists** - Linking with our Victorian theme, we will be thinking about how the Victorians were able to eat healthily by making Victorian broth

**As sports enthusiasts** - We will be learning a traditional Victorian dance as well as continuing to practice skills for team games.

**As explorers of faiths and beliefs** - We will be learning how Jewish people celebrate and practise their faith.

**Our PSHE curriculum** - We will be learning how to stay well physically as well as mentally. We will be thinking about how we can manage our emotions through a range of strategies as well as developing our independence and taking care of our teeth.